Setting up of High Powered financial committee over ONGC

1482. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the general response to the proposal of Government to set up a high power committee with financial powers to take investment decisions beyond the powers of the ONGC; and

(b) what are the salient features of this proposal and by when this Committee is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) As per the present Memorandum of Understanding, delegation of additional financial powers to ONGC are to be considered in respect of replacement and renewals of assets, additions and new investments and release of foreign exchange. Establishments of an Empowered Committee would be considered only after comprehensive proposals are received from ONGC for achievement of 8th Plan targets for oil and natural gas.

Foreign collaboration for oil exploration

1483. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the countries which have offered financial and technical assistance to India for oil exploration and what are the details thereof, countrywise;

(b) how many oil wells have been developed so far with foreign expertise and technical collaboration; and

(c) how many oil wells are in the process of development in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Financial and technical assistance have been offered/rendered for different exploration activities like surveys, basin modelling, drilling, etc by USSR, U.K., Canada & France.

(b) and (c) Contracts have been signed with USSR under Intensive Integrated Exploration Programme in North Cambay, Cauvery and West Bengal basins under Soviet assistance. 73 wells are to be drilled under the Intensive Integrated Exploration Programme. So far nine Wells in Cambay basin and two wells in Cauvery basin have already been drilled. Two wells in Cambay basin, three wells in Cauvery basin and one well in West Bengal basin are currently being drilled.

Hearing by price review committee relating to drugs

1484. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1607 and 1623 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th May, 1989 and state :

(a) what are the names of drug companies and names of drugs involved for which Price Review Committee gave hearing;

(b) what was the price recommended for each drug;

(c) whether it is a fact that M/s. Glaxo was not involved in litigation in the Supreme Court;

(d) if so, how the committee heared their representations even by going beyoud the terms of reference; and

(e) on what basis the committee recommended increase of price of Betamethasone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL): (a) The